PTO/SB/17 (10-03)

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FEE	TR	AN	SMI	TT	AL
•	for	FY	200	4	

Effective 10/01/2003. Patent fees are subject to annual revision.

Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27

OTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT	(\$) 860
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Signature

Complete if Known				
Application Number	09/965,542			
Filing Date	9/27/2001			
First Named Inventor	Houser			
Examiner Name	Pham, Huong Q			
Art Unit	3764			
Attorney Docket No.	010905			

Date

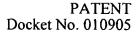
June 3, 2004

METHOD OF PAYMENT (check all that apply)		FEE CALCULATION (continued)				
Check Credit card Money Other None		3. ADDITIONAL FEES				
Deposit Account:		Large Entity   Small Entity				
Deposit		Fee (\$)	Fee Code	Fee (\$)	Fee Description	Fee Paid
Account Number	1051	130	2051	65	Surcharge - late filing fee or oath	
Deposit Account		50	2052	25	Surcharge - late provisional filing fee or cover sheet	
Name The Director is authorized to: (check all that apply)	1053	130	1053	130	Non-English specification	<b>├</b>
Charge fee(s) indicated below Credit any overpayments	1812	2,520	1812	2,520	For filing a request for ex parte reexamination	
Charge any additional fee(s) or any underpayment of fee(s)	1804	920*	1804	920*	Requesting publication of SIR prior to Examiner action	
Charge fee(s) indicated below, except for the filing fee to the above-identified deposit account.	1805	1,840*	1805	1,840*	Requesting publication of SIR after Examiner action	
FEE CALCULATION	1251	110	2251	55	Extension for reply within first month	
1. BASIC FILING FEE	1252	420	2252	210	Extension for reply within second month	
Large Entity Small Entity	1253	950	2253	475	Extension for reply within third month	475
Fee Fee Fee Fee Paid Code (\$) Code (\$)	1254	1,480	2254	740	Extension for reply within fourth month	
1001 770 2001 385   Utility filing fee	1255	2,010	2255	1,005	Extension for reply within fifth month	
1002 340 2002 170 Design filing fee 385	1401	330	2401	165	Notice of Appeal	
1003 530 2003 265 Plant filing fee	1402	330	2402	165	Filing a brief in support of an appeal	I
1004 770 2004 385 Reissue filing fee	1403	290	2403	145	Request for oral hearing	<u></u>
1005 160 2005 80 Provisional filing fee	1451	1,510	1451	1,510	Petition to institute a public use proceeding	EVYCH
SUBTOTAL (1) (\$) 385		110	2452	55	Petition to revive - unavoidable	
2. EXTRA CLAIM FEES FOR UTILITY AND REISSUE	1453	1,330	2453	665	Petition to revive - unintentional JUN 1	0 2004
Fee from		1,330	2501	665	Utility issue fee (or reissue)	
Extra Claims below Fee Paid  Total Claims 19 .20** = X	1502 1503	480	2502	240	Utility issue fee (or reissue)  Design issue fee  Plant issue fee	ENTER PO
Independent -		640	2503			
Claims 3 - 3** = X = X	1460	130	1460	130	Petitions to the Commissioner	<u> </u>
		50	1807	7 50	Processing fee under 37 CFR 1.17(q)	
Large Entity   Small Entity Fee Fee   Fee Fee Fee Description	1806	180	1806	5 180	Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt	<b>├</b>
Code (\$) Code (\$)	8021	40	802	1 40	Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties)	
1202	1809	770	2809	9 385	Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR 1.129(a))	
1203 290 2203 145 Multiple dependent claim, if not paid	1810	770	2810	385	For each additional invention to be	
1204 86 2204 43 ** Reissue independent claims		_			examined (37 CFR 1.129(b))	<del>                                     </del>
over original patent	1801		2801	385	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	
1205 18 2205 9 ** Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent	1802	900	1802	900	<ul> <li>Request for expedited examination of a design application</li> </ul>	
SUBTOTAL (2) (\$) 0	Other	fee (sp	ecify) _			
**or number previously paid, if greater; For Reissues, see above	*Redu	uced by	Basic I	Filing F	ee Paid SUBTOTAL (3) (\$) 475	
SUBMITTED BY (Complete (if applicable))						
Name (Print/Type) James G. Whavne	F	Registra	tion No		Telephone 919 740-3051	

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(Attorney/Agent)





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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of:

Houser, et al

Serial No.: 09/965,542

Filing Date: September 27, 2001

For: JOINT BRACES AND TRACTION

DEVICES INCORPORATING SUPERELASTIC SUPPORTS

Examiner: H. Pham

Group Art Unit: 3764

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JUN 1 0 2004

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the specification and claims as put forth below. This amendment is responsive to the Office Action dated December 5, 2003 for which a three-month period for response was given. A 3 month extension is provided with this response. Accordingly, this response is timely filed. In view of the amendments to the claims and the remarks put forth below, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.